

REMARKS

Claims 3-10 are pending in this application. No amendment has been made to the claims. The specification has been amended herein. Applicants submit that new matter has been added by this amendment.

Regarding the Specification.

The specification has been amended on pages 13-15 to amend "amino group-containing silane compounds (e)" to "aminoalkyl group-containing silane compounds (e)", for consistency with claim 3 as amended on November 26, 2002. This amendment is made for the purpose of consistency of nomenclature and does not introduce new matter.

Claims 3, 4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Proebster et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,205,416).

The rejection of claims 3, 4 and 6 over Proebster et al. is respectfully traversed.

The present invention concerns a two-pack type curable composition and the inventions in claims 3 to 6 rejected by the outstanding official action concerns inventions for curing **agent** compositions. More specifically, this is an invention of a curing agent for use in two-pack type curable compositions as described in the industrial applicability on page 63 of the present specification.

Proebster also relates to a two-component type adhesive/sealing material. However, as described in first column, lines 40-42 of the reference, component A, containing a crosslinkable

Amendment under 37 CFR 1.111
Hiroshi ANDO et al.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/701,011
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polymer composition, corresponds to a main agent and component B is a crosslinker and/or a promotor for the components for the component A. Applicants submit that component A of Proebster does not anticipate the curing agent composition of the present claims.

To summarize, since the present invention is a curing **agent** composition, it is different from the main agent containing an component such as a crosslinking polymer.

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 3, 4 and 6 is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 3-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hasegawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,541,266).

The rejection of claims 3-6 over Hasegawa et al. is respectfully traversed.

Hasegawa concerns a curable composition but it is not an invention concerning a curing **agent** composition. While application to a two-component type curable composition is described in column 5, lines 28-29, the curing **agent** composition used therein is neither disclosed nor suggested.

Applicants again submit that the present invention is different from the cited reference since the invention is directed to a curing **agent** composition.

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 3-6 is therefore respectfully requested.

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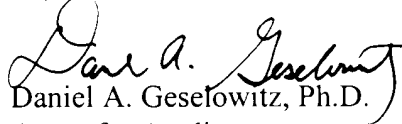
If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants undersigned agent at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: Version with markings to show changes made

H: FLOATERS DAG Amendments 001550 4-22-03 amend

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 11, as follows:

Illustrative examples of such a silane coupling agent include amino group-containing silane compounds; mercapto group-containing silanes such as γ -mercaptopropyltrimethoxysilane and γ -mercaptopropyldimethoxysilane; vinyl type unsaturated group-containing silanes such as vinyltrimethoxysilane, γ -methacryloyloxypropyltrimethoxysilane and γ -acryloyloxypropylmethyldimethoxysilane; chlorine atom-containing silanes such as γ -chloropropyltrimethoxysilane; isocyanate-containing silanes such as γ -isocyanatepropyltriethoxysilane and γ -isocyanatepropylmethoxysilane; and hydrosilanes such as methyldimethoxysilane, trimethoxysilane and methyldiethoxysilane, though not limited thereto. Among these compound, an ~~amino~~ aminoalkyl group-containing silane compound (e) is preferable from the viewpoint of adhesiveness provision.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 3, as follows:

The ~~amino~~ aminoalkyl group-containing silane compound (e) may be any compound which has an ~~amino~~ aminoalkyl group and a hydrolyzable silyl group in its molecule, and its illustrative examples include γ -aminopropyltrimethoxysilane, γ -aminopropyltriethoxysilane, γ -aminopropylmethyldimethoxysilane, γ -aminopropylmethyldiethoxysilane, N-(β -aminoethyl)- γ -aminopropyltrimethoxysilane, N-(β -aminoethyl)- γ -aminopropyltrimethoxysilane, N-(β -aminoethyl)-

γ -aminopropyltriethoxysilane, N-(β -aminoethyl)- γ -aminopropylmethyldimethoxysilane, N-(β -aminoethyl)- γ -aminopropylmethyldiethoxysilane, 1,3-diaminoisopropyltrimethoxysilane and the like, but not limited thereto and generally used ~~amino~~ aminoalkyl group-containing silane compounds can be used. These ~~amino~~ aminoalkyl group-containing silane compounds may be used alone or as a mixture of two or more.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 14, line 20, as follows:

Among these ~~amino~~ aminoalkyl group-containing silane compounds (e), γ -aminopropylmethyldimethoxysilane, N-(β -aminoethyl)- γ -aminopropylmethyltrimethoxysilane, N-(β -aminoethyl)- γ -aminopropylmethyldimethoxysilane and the like can be cited as more preferred examples from the viewpoint of easy availability. A compound which contains two or more amino groups is particularly desirable because of its ability to generate high adhesiveness.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 3, as follows:

In addition, the ~~amino~~ aminoalkyl group-containing silane compound (e) and other silane coupling agent maybe jointly used as the hydrolyzable silyl group-containing compound (a) within such a range that the object of the invention is not spoiled. Illustratively, it is desirable to jointly use vinyltrimethoxysilane as a dehydrating agent for improving storage stability.